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Obiter ♦ Dicta

Vol 86 Issue 4

The Definitive Source for Osgoode News

October 15, 2013



Nuit Blanche unlocks modern art

MARIE PARK
Layout Editor

As night fell upon the streets of Toronto on October 5, 2013, hundreds of thousands congregated to experience Nuit Blanche. Though many were artists in their own right, many were also members the general public with a topical understanding and awareness of modern art. Many such individuals may know of Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse, but may shake their head when asked about another character of the modern era who is too often less credited.

For those with a working knowledge of art history, Marcel Duchamp is a revered name, but for those who know and understand art on a more-or-less superficial level, Duchamp is an elusive character, and the significance of his works is too often misunderstood and understated. As aspiring artists and art appreciators, one must know how this one artist influenced a lasting and profound change of the role of art to the artist, and in turn, to the audience as well.

Duchamp is perchance most known for his piece entitled Bicycle Wheel – literally, a bicycle wheel mounted and inverted onto a stool. It caused some outrage in the artistic community of his time, as such a simple object in such a simple presentation could not possibly have

been considered an honest piece of art. But as the years progressed, this piece, as well as his subsequent other “readymade” sculptures, became acknowledged for teaching artists an invaluable lesson about their own identities and their work as artists.

A most crucial lesson hidden in these seemingly everyday, mundane objects was this: art is more than an object of technical creation; it is a vehicle that can capture the infinite potential of human expression through forms that can be felt through the physical senses. It is a method of transforming abstractions, or thoughts, into tangibles so that other individuals can experience them, in their own perceptions, through the interaction of a physical manifestation of those thoughts. What this means is that an artwork is not merely a visual ornament; it is an attempt of the artist to transmit the conscious thoughts and experiences that exist in their minds through media that can be seen, felt, heard, touched, or otherwise sensed.

An artist is one who can identify the abstract, an idea, and present it in a form that can be subjectively interpreted by an audience. In contemporary and modern art, this experience of transmittance and reception of the idea is the artwork itself. Without understanding this,

contemporary art can appear nonsensical and sometimes mindless.

Duchamp understood this in an age where the artistic community just began to abandon notions of art simply as decoration. Artists began to revolt against the ideals of traditional art, where excellence in art arose from the artist’s ability to replicate historical forms of perfection. Art began to leave the realm of purely decorative to become art for art’s sake. Duch-

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- Scott Pelley

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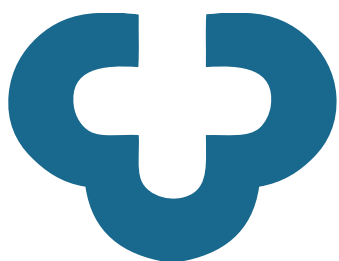
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Submissions for the October 28 issue are due at 5PM on October 20, and should be submitted to the email address above.

Obiter Dicta is the official student newspaper of Osgoode Hall Law School. The opinions expressed in the articles contained herein are not necessarily those of the *Obiter* staff. The *Obiter* reserves the right to refuse any submission that is judged to be libelous or defamatory, contains personal attacks, or is discriminatory on the basis of sex, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Submissions may be edited for length and/or content.

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editorial

An ode to all things analog

It's no secret that trudging through the more stressful and overwhelming times in our lives can encourage escapism, day-dreaming and basically anything other than attending to the things that need to be attended to. Case in point: readings, no; falling down the rabbit hole of endlessly Googling corgi pictures, yes. It is in this spirit that we feel particularly inclined to regale you with musings of how much easier mid-term and OCI season would be without email, smartphones and Facebook – in short, if instead of 2013, this were, say, 1970.

NB: We were researching "life without cell-phones" (not that we were at a loss for what to write, or anything). Google recommended the following searches: "life without limbs", "life without parole" and "life without plastic" – the world is a dark and...environmentally friendly (?) place, in case you needed any reminders.

Imagine if we didn't have to all access the Toronto OCI portal on MyOsgoode at the same time on the same day, always awkwardly and inconveniently seeming to be during class, to find out about interview offers. Imagine if we didn't have to watch each other obsessively (but understandably) refreshing our email every five seconds to see if any of the firms emailed us before call day. Imagine if we didn't have to write thank you notes! (In the alternative, imagine if we had to write them by hand, in which event, computers don't seem so bad anymore.) Imagine if we didn't have to write midterms on computers, thus avoiding the insufferable clacker of MacBook keyboards that makes it literally impossible to concentrate during an exam. Imagine if we didn't have to deal with moronic auto-formatting when making our summaries. Imagine if you could never lose a Word document, because documents were actu-

ally real, tangible things you held in your hand. Imagine if Jessica White couldn't hide behind the anonymity of fake emails, being instead forced to affix her letter on the door of the lecture hall like a noble Martin Luther (which would obviously thwart her anonymity because, hello – handwriting analysis).

In honour of these simpler times, we recommend taking some time during the next few weeks to unplug and detox. It's always important to find some time to relax, but it's even better if you can find ways of doing so without relying on technology. Go for a run sans iPhone. Bake something pumpkin-flavoured. Have a conversation with someone – like, in person (no, FaceTime or Skype don't count). Read something that has real pages rather than a screen that you swipe (it can, nay, should be something mindless). We spend enough of our time sitting in front of screens doing the things we have to do – why not extract yourself from them so you can do some of the things you want to do?

Before we part, some words of comfort. 1Ls: midterms don't matter. No seriously, they really don't. If can't put down the textbooks, spend your time reading ahead so you can have more time to prep for the real exam. 2Ls: instead of scary lawyers sitting across the interview table from you, pretend they're your great-aunt asking about what you're doing in school. Most importantly, remember that the OCI craze will on day (sooner than you think) seem distant and small and silly. 3Ls: congratulations! Y'all have jumped through all the law-school hoops already. Enjoy the cakewalk and go knit an oven mitt.

In short: as always, Ozzies, hang in there.



Where great work and
great people come together

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L&L update

DYLAN MCGUINTY

Contributor

Dear Osgoode students,

I am pleased to give you my first progress report since being humbled by the trust you placed in me by electing me as your Legal and Lit President.

Pub Nights

L&L hosted our first Pub Night on Wednesday, September 18. Thanks to Zorn, we teamed up with ILP to host a fundraiser to help raise a few bucks for future ILP endeavours.

We are also pleased to introduce a selection of new items for our JCR nights, including sandwiches from Blumont Bistro; Thornbury Ciders; and rotating draft choices. We will also soon be offering tall cans of Pabst Blue Ribbon.



Webmaster and Bar Manager

I would like to welcome Alicia Landry, our new L&L webmaster. With her expertise and diligence, L&L's website content will be managed and protected.

I would also like to congratulate Zorn for returning as JCR Bar manager. We are pleased that he has come back to make the JCR a lively communal space for all of us to enjoy. With Zorn's help, we are actively seeking Osgoode clubs and organizations to share in good times and showcase Osgoode students' artistic talent and cultural expression by pairing up with us for our JCR nights. If you have an event idea you would like to share, or have a secret talent you would like to showcase, please contact Zorn at zornpink@gmail.com.

For information about events at Osgoode and in the JCR, please follow us on Twitter - @legalandlit.

Mental Health Awareness Week

Mental Health Awareness Week is planned for the week of October 28.

In any given year, one in five people in Canada experiences a mental health problem or illness, with a cost to the economy in excess of \$50 billion. This is not only the world we will be entering as graduates of Osgoode; it is the world we live in today. Your L&L executive is committed to raising awareness and diminishing the stigma associated with the issues sur-

rounding mental health. Melanie Bank Goela, Osgoode's first Student Success and Wellness Counsellor, provides support when pressures become difficult. Send her an email at mgoela@osgoode.yorku.ca.

For the second year in a row, Legal and Lit and our effervescent Equity Officer, Ebony Rose, are supporting the Mental Health Law Students' Association and Melanie Bank Goela in organizing Osgoode's second annual Mental Health Awareness Week. We are excited at the progress we are making and are aiming to strike a balance between wellness and de-stressor events while examining the complex dimensions around mental health.

Pineapple Express

Apparently, Osgoode has some of the country's best-fed starving law students – or at least that is what one might have con-

cluded after reading Jessica White's scathing reprimand of J.D. students. This kicked off an exciting whodunit at Osgoode as well as a pineapple movement, which unfolded in our hallowed halls and in the national press. But, as I put it to John Tory on his Live Drive radio show, this event highlights the old fashioned value of respect – towards letter-writers and towards those to whom we implore for peace and quiet in the classroom. Needless to say, Ms. White's letter used indelicate language and made questionable value judgments; but she had a strong arguable case for the importance of using discretion while eating in class.

Osgoode's Digital Initiative

Osgoode is embarking on an ambitious Digital Initiative this year to build on, extend, enrich and better coordinate the multiple digital initiatives already underway at Osgoode and determine which new areas to develop (whether in areas of pedagogy, research, student services or Osgoode community life). These initiatives, along with a selection of best practices from other institutions, are summarized in a draft background paper which is now available on Osgoode's digital initiative Moodle site. You can access the Moodle site by clicking the Osgoode Digital Initiative link on the MyOsgoode portal homepage (beneath the Announcements box) and logging into Moodle. If prompted for an enrolment key please enter: Ozdigital13/14. We

encourage you to visit the site, participate in a forum discussion and submit your comments. You may also e-mail digital@osgoode.yorku.ca with your specific feedback or questions. A town hall meeting will be scheduled in early 2014 to collect additional feedback and comments. For more information see also Dean Sossin's recent blog post at <http://deansblog.osgoode.yorku.ca/2013/09/osgoodes-digital-initiative/>.

Clothing Sale

The clothing sale for this year is moving forward; items will be available for purchase in 3-4 weeks. We will be doing things a little differently this year, as items will be available for purchase year-round. If anyone has any thoughts regarding clothing feel free to email Lucas at legalandlit2ndyr@gmail.com. Additionally, you will be able to custom build items this year, for those of you who have specific desires that are not included in our general clothing sale. Finally, we will be selling the remaining inventory from last year's sale sometime over the next couple of weeks, details to be announced.

Course Summary Database

The first-year and upper-year summary databases have been updated and are available through legalandlit.ca. The first-year database is publicly accessible, but for access to upper-year summaries, you must email an original summary for an active course (with the semester and professor name) to legalandlitvpi@osgoode.yorku.ca. If you are in 3L, your submitted summary must be for an upper-year course. On request, exchange and transfer students will be provided with complimentary access to the upper-year database.

Used Book Sale Website

L&L has created a publicly accessible site for students to list their books for sale. The page is linked through legalandlit.ca. Please post items for sale and shop for the books you need. As a courtesy to others, please delete your entries after you have sold your books. Questions may be directed to legalandlitvpi@osgoode.yorku.ca (Doug). All entries will be deleted in late November so that a new sale cycle can begin for the winter term.

Trivia!

Round one of Trivia took place on Wednesday October 2nd in the JCR and was a huge success. A total of 21 teams of four participated. The Vladimir Poutines came out on top with an impressive 31 points. These points will carry

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Bench material

CITLALLY MACIEL

News Editor

On September 23, 2013, an email was sent to the Osgoode community reporting that its Assistant Dean Stribopoulos had been appointed a Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton. Justice Stribopoulos will join a number of other Osgoode alumni who have been appointed a magistrate position.

Currently, one member of the Supreme Court of Canada is an Osgoode graduate, Justice Andromache Karakatsanis. About five members of the Court of Appeal of Ontario are Osgoode alumni. These include Associate Chief Justice Alexandra Hoy, Justice Michael Tulloch, and Justice Harry S. Laforme. The search for Osgoode alumni among the different courts would surely result in many more of individuals. However, the list above is a good indicator that Osgoode breeds individuals who are “bench” material.

One observation is that a number of these individuals are trailblazers. For instance, Justice Tulloch is the first Black judge appointed to the Court; Justice Laforme is the first Aboriginal person appointed to any appellate court judge in Canadian history; and of course, Justice Karakatsanis is the first Greek-Canadian judge appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada. Another, curious observation is that a great number of these Osgoode magistrates were appointed by a member of the Liberal Party. What this peculiar fact says about Osgoode, Canadian politics, and the intersection of those two, I will leave it up to you to conclude.

Certainly, Canadian politics and Osgoode are not intersecting much these days. At least not

when it comes to endorse Harper’s latest nominee to the Supreme Court of Canada, Justice Marc Nadon. This is not to say that a heated feud has arisen between the Osgoode community and Harper. Rather, the decision has been politely questioned. Professor Jamie Cameron, for instance, told *The Globe and Mail* that choosing a candidate whose expertise is admiralty law was “an odd choice, because it’s not a very strong match with the court’s core jurisdiction in public law, the Charter and criminal law.”

In fact, Osgoode is not alone in this respect. There are others who have also disfavoured this appointment. The objections stem not only from the fact that Justice Nadon’s background is incompatible with the background characteristic of the other members of the Supreme Court. The objections are also based on the fact that it is a male who is being appointed. In a recent interview with Peter Mansbridge, Chief Justice McLachlin was asked about Justice Nadon’s appointment. Chief Justice McLachlin acknowledged that the act of appointing Justices to the Supreme Court of Canada is the Constitutional right of a prime minister. Nonetheless, Chief Justice McLachlin stated that “the court should be representative of society,” and that she is “all in favour of gender parity.” In the opinion of Chief Justice McLachlin, having female Justices serving Canada’s highest Court adds to its credibility.

Others are worried that the Supreme Court has already too many Harper-appointed Justices and the political influence this may have in the future decisions of the Court. Others point to the fact that the Court is not racially diverse. In an article published by *Lawyer Magazine*, Philip Slayton writes:

“The problem is that the country moves on ideologically and demographically leaving the Supreme Court behind. The face of Canada changes, but the court doesn’t keep pace. Isn’t it about time, for example, that someone from a visible minority and someone from the gay and lesbian community sat as a Supreme Court justice? It remains a scandal that an aboriginal has yet to be appointed. The usual counter-argument to such a suggestion is “all that matters is legal ability,” but that retort is specious and simplistic...”

On Wednesday, Justice Nadon told a special parliamentary committee that Canadian courts are “not another Parliament,” and that it is not up to judges to say whether a law is good or whether it ought to be changed. Although he recognizes that the Constitution sometimes gives judges the power to change laws, it will be interesting to see how open he will be to using this power. Critics point to his dissent in the Federal Court’s decision regarding the Omar Khadr case. A dissent that came to be at odds with that of the Supreme Court of Canada in terms of the manner in which the government treated Omar Khadr. The *Globe and Mail* cites examples of what it calls Justice Nadon’s “restrained” approach, such as the 2003 case where Justice Nadon overruled a decision that granted status Aboriginals tax exemptions off-reserve; and his decision against granting full maternity benefits to an adoptive mother.

My two cents: The role of the Court is greater than what Justice Nadon’s deems it to be. Regardless of his experience or “legal ability,” I will side with Chief Justice McLachlin. Nothing personal. As I always say, time will tell. In the meantime, congratulations to Justice Stribopoulos for this great achievement.

L&L update

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over into Round two, which will be on Wednesday October 16th in the JCR. With 11 teams eliminated, only 10 teams remain.

Other people and teams are welcome to come play the next round; they’re just out of the running for the top spot.

Clubs Budgets Approved

September was a busy month for budgets. Thank you to all clubs for having submitted their proposals. Legal and Lit approved funds on the basis of those proposals, with the help and guidance of our dynamic and super-well-

organized VPX, Allison Williams.

Club Collaboration

We have created a central online calendar that clubs can use to collaboratively find dates to organize events that don’t conflict with each other. This tool will go a long way to helping clubs organize exciting initiatives that will benefit all of Osgoode students, as well as to facilitate member-focused events.

Dean’s Formal Planning Underway

Our 3L Rep, Weston Powell, has been busy

phoning, meeting and emailing to organize one of Osgoode’s biggest annual events, the Dean’s Formal. Stay tuned, we don’t want to spoil the surprise!

Financial Aid

L&L is also working with Student Financial Services to increase targeted funding to students who have demonstrated financial need. If you have any questions, please contact Weston at legalandlit3rd@gmail.com.

Dylan McGuinty is the President of the Legal and Literary Society.

Understanding the spirit of “Gambatte” with former Ontario Cabinet Minister David Tsubouchi

XI CHEN
Contributor

On Monday September 30, the Distinguished Speakers Series (DSSOC) and the Asian Law Students of Osgoode (ALSO) invited Mr. David Tsubouchi, a former Ontario cabinet minister and Osgoode alumnus, to the school to speak about his fascinating life experiences and his recently published memoir. Over the course of two hours, Mr. Tsubouchi shared stories from both his personal past and the more distant memories of his parents and grandparents. Although the narrative spanned half a century, his message was loud and clear: adversity, big and small, must be combated with perseverance. For him, this means with the spirit of *Gambatte*, a Japanese word meaning to do one's best in life.

The need to persevere through adversity is of course a universal truth. To live a successful life is to do so with determination and resolve. However, the true value of Mr. Tsubouchi's message lives in what is lost in translation.

Although Mr. Tsubouchi was never a teacher by trade, 25 years of political experience built upon a successful career in law has made him a natural storyteller. His words flowed as easily in conversation as they did when he read from his memoir. And with his words, he took us to World War II: what we know to be the Japanese Internment, and what that meant for him - the days when his family lost everything. Mr. Tsubouchi told us of his grandmother's futile attempts to free his grandfather from a mental



DAVID TSUBOUCHI

institution, where he lived out the rest of his days after being transferred from a Prisoner of War (POW) camp. Mr. Tsubouchi's grandfather was not mentally insane or ever convicted of any crimes. Nevertheless, he died far from home, without his loved ones or the rights owed to him as a Canadian citizen. Mr. Tsubouchi reminded us that his story is not unique. A generation of Japanese-Canadians endured the trials of the Internment and the next generation had to endure the aftermath.

Mr. Tsubouchi spoke of his father as his hero. He referred to an episode in which the senior Mr. Tsubouchi coached a young David facing

racism and bullying at school to “go back and punch someone in the nose.” A youthful David, while small in stature, did as he was told but was beaten up for standing up to his bully. The senior Mr. Tsubouchi then told him to “go back and punch someone in the nose.” This cycle of abuse and retaliation continued for two weeks until a battle-ready David finally drew blood. The bullying stopped and a lesson in perseverance was taught and learned.

The nuance in Mr. Tsubouchi's message lives in the connection between these two stories. Perseverance as defined by Mr. Tsubouchi's memories cannot simply be captured by “never giving up” or “reaching for the stars.” Instead, *Gambatte* is a culturalized understanding of the world. It is the experience of three generations of Japanese-Canadians distilled into an unyielding spirit against overwhelming odds. This is why Mr. Tsubouchi began his story with his grandparents. Because the genesis of this maverick of Canadian politics, this champion of unpopular causes, and consummate moral man, is inextricably tied to the Japanese-Canadians who came before him. He reminds us that his story is not unique, but it is precisely the link between the collective memory that shaped him and his personal worldview that makes *Gambatte* so powerful. In his memoir, Mr. Tsubouchi pays respect to those who gave *Gambatte* meaning by continuing to urge us to live extraordinary lives with incredible strength, humility, and with the desire to always do one's best.

Call for submissions for Osgoode's first Research Symposium for JD students

SARA HANSON
Contributor

In law school, we are often focused on just getting through each semester. We pour our energies into our summaries and cramming for exams, only to forget everything we learned the moment the exam is over. The same mentality often drives us through the paper writing process. In first year, 1Ls scramble to finish their perspective option papers so they have time to study. The upper year writing requirement is yet another dreaded task for 2Ls and 3Ls who are struggling to balance their course load or stay interested in their work.

However, academic research is not a burden for all students, and for those who previously studied liberal arts, it can be a welcome escape

from the norm of 100% finals. Every year our peers produce dozens of innovative papers on developing areas of law. Once in a while a student may be encouraged by a professor to seek publication, but for the most part, these papers largely go unread once they have been graded.

Well folks, it's time to go into those hard drives and retrieve the papers that you never thought would see the light of your computer screen again. The Distinguished Speakers Series Organizing Committee (DSSOC) is planning Osgoode's first ever research symposium for JD students on February 12, 2014. The Symposium will be an opportunity for you to share the research you are proud of with your colleagues. You can submit first year perspective option

papers, or any paper or case comment you submitted for an upper-year seminar or intensive program. We also welcome submissions in a non-traditional medium such as a video or any other format that communicates what your research is about.

Please send your submissions to dssoc.osgoode@gmail.com by October 31, 2013. Selections will be made by a student committee, overseen by LLM students, and will be based on the quality and originality of the research. Students who are chosen to participate in the symposium will be able to request funding to assist with displaying their research. We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Welcome to your single-use education

JEFF MITCHELL
Contributor

“Everywhere I travel, tiny life. Single-serving sugar, single-serving cream, single pat of butter. The microwave Cordon Bleu hobby kit. Shampoo-conditioner combos, sample-packaged mouthwash, tiny bars of soap. The people I meet on each flight? They’re single-serving friends.” – *Fight Club* (1999)

Why should our classroom experience be single-use? Why are many of us restricted from accessing course content? Why can’t we have the double-double and a tub of butter classroom experience?

The Audio Recording Policy (ARP) has been a heated issue at Osgoode long before our arrival at the law school. I’ll spare you the history of the policy because it doesn’t really matter – what does matter is how the ARP cheapens your academic experience today.

Simply put, for the purpose of the ARP, each student is either in or out. To be part of the in crowd you must pass Osgoode’s administrative system that vets the legitimacy of accommodation requests. Students with a requirement for accommodation seek to formalize their status under the ARP by demonstrating their needs under one of the enumerated grounds making out accommodated status. If you don’t fall within one of the accepted inclusions, you’re not going to get access to the video and audio recordings made through the class desktop recording system, or access to notes made by your peers under the Dean’s Scribe program.

Here is a list of some circumstances that will generally not permit students to access recordings:

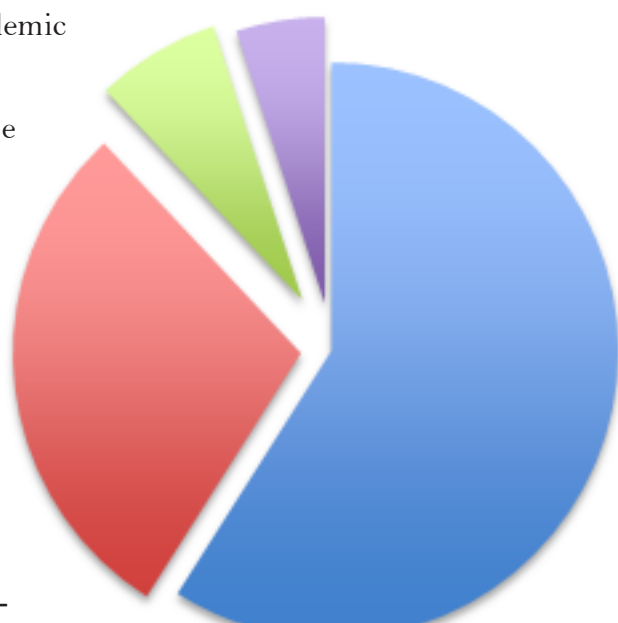
- Absence of two days for serious medical or compassionate situation
- Attending trial for an approved OPIR activity
- Attending an industry-related conference
- Exchange students taking classes on pass/fail system

- Professional development activities

Some of the arguments I’ve heard from administrators and faculty over the past 2 years include: the system is too expensive; the recording hardware fails, or the software is too hard to use. Other arguments are based on concerns over intellectual property rights, opposition to recording because class attendance will decrease, or, my personal favorite: “we didn’t have it back in our day so why should you.”

Just this past academic year, a new argument emerged from the Office of the Associate Dean in a memo to Faculty Council

Fall 2012 ARP data



■ Recorded (59%)

■ Not Recorded (29%)

■ No Sound (7%)

■ Cancelled (5%)

It is not overly challenging to cut back on the human and technological error. A wireless microphone system and battery can be purchased for under \$25. Osgoode could use part of a Professional Development day to train professors on the desktop recording system.

With a few simple fixes the rate of failure could be substantially reduced, producing a

higher rate of successful recordings for accommodated students.

This leads us to two major impediments for the rate of recording failures: professors failing to engage the system, and unavailability of required technology at the beginning of class. The tech issue is solved by ensuring Osgoode IT has the proper procedures in place to ensure that recording hardware is in the room and operational. The bigger issue is the unwillingness of a few professors to make a true effort to record their lecture. It only takes a few unwilling professors to drastically raise the number of failed class recordings. I believe that it only takes one willing administration to require that those professors who consistently fail to record classes improve their performance. To do so requires a clear message from Osgoode that the audio and visual recording system has a greater value than notes alone. If that were to happen, we would see the success of the ARP rise to a level where it couldn’t

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possibly be scrapped.

When Student Caucus learned of Osgoode's concern with the rate of failure under the ARP, we thought students would see new technology in the classroom, and top-notch support for professors who struggle with the recording program and equipment. We were wrong.

The Associate Dean decided that the remedy was to scrap the audio/video recording and rely exclusively on the Dean's Scribe program as a means to satisfy Osgoode's legal duty to accommodate. I can't help but notice the significant monetary and HR savings this strategy accomplishes by downloading the burden to students through the Dean's Scribe program. Further still, this system doesn't expand who Osgoode will permit to be accommodated. We should expect more from our administration and more for our educational dollar.

Student Caucus was faced with a tough choice: to advocate aggressively in the short-term or in the long-term. The majority of Caucus voted for the short-term position: save the audio/video recording today for those students who have accommodation status under the ARP because some successful recordings are more valuable than none. In my opinion, the short-term strategy came with a substantial cost to the vast majority of students who still don't have access to their own course content for their own educational purposes. I believe that the better strategy would have been to shift the conversation away from accommodation and towards recordings as academic resources available for all, while the Dean's Scribe program could remain the mechanism for Osgoode to shield itself from potential liability for not providing accommodation.

Let me be absolutely clear: accommodated students should have access to resources to assist them at law school. We should strive to offer more than just written notes, a resource that captures the classroom elements: the lecturer, the computer screens, and questions from students. Not only should this be a resource

for accommodated students, it should be a resource for all students.

It isn't asking too much to have access to the content our tuition pays for. I don't believe in the notion that the ARP is a mechanism to "balance" the learning inequality between those who require accommodation and those who don't. All Osgoode students should be able to listen to and watch their class again, and to relive the classroom experience. Some will say that students should record classes with their own device, or get notes from their friend. I hope that we don't accept that obtaining academic resources should be a student's responsibility. I should be able to access my course content just like I can repeat-

grate technology into our curricular offerings? In what specific ways will the quality of legal education be enhanced through such integration?

I think we need to look past the glam and allure of new technology and a broader institutional reach – we need get back to basics. Let's first tackle the problem of restricted course content to our current students before thinking about how to integrate additional opportunities into our curriculum.

Thankfully, I don't think the Osgoode administration has shut out Student Caucus or concerns from the student body. In fact, the Dean attended the first meeting of Student Caucus this year to solicit feedback from elected members. The Dean has also made his report publically available at the MyOsgoode Page under a section dedicated to the Digital Initiative.

I leave you with one of the Dean's questions for considering from his report:

Is it time to reassess our pedagogical mission statement to account for recent developments in digital legal education?

The answer is "yes."

Until the Osgoode administration can assess, update and support its own mission of providing superior legal education to its own students, I can't support an Initiative that focuses on expanding the reach of the law school or the monetization of our legal education. Osgoode needs to commit to improving the current ARP and expanding its coverage to include all students. Once that day comes, I'll be the first to shift the conversation towards what Osgoode can do to provide greater access and opportunities for non-students.

In the meantime, it will be on members of your Student Caucus and all of us attending Osgoode to speak up about what our academic experience should include. Consider what resources you and your peers should have access to. What restrictions on your learning are acceptable?

Let's work together to make Osgoode a place where the use of technology effectively accommodates – and enhances – the learning of all students.

Jeff Mitchell is the Chair of Student Caucus.

Potential success rate of the ARP with improved technology and training



edly take out my professor's book from our law library.

Osgoode is now at a turning point.

The Osgoode administration is currently pushing forward with a draft Digital Initiative – a review of what services and technologies the law school currently offers, and a sampling of what means other leading law schools are using to develop their research engines for better collaboration and scholarly activities. The Digital Initiative does, however, also include several mechanisms that would open up our classrooms to the world in the name of access (e.g. distance learning, collaboration, and increase availability of public legal education) and potential profit.

The Dean outlines questions in his draft report to be considered in the context of digital legal education, including:

Are there any additional opportunities to inte-

Looking past the puppies: Mental Health Awareness Week 2013

TOBY SAMSON
Contributor

On Monday, October 28th, Osgoode will kick off its second annual Mental Health Awareness Week. The Mental Health Law Society and Legal and Lit's Equity Officer, Ebony Rose, have been working hard with the support of Melanie Banka Goela, Osgoode's Student Success and Wellness Counsellor, to plan a diverse set of events. This year, MHAW aims to strike a balance between promoting student wellness and contextualizing mental health more generally.

I know what you're thinking: "Mental Health Awareness Week? Does that mean there will be...puppies!?"

Yes, there will be puppies.

But there will be more than puppies. There must more than puppies, a lot more than puppies, to even begin to change the culture around mental health at Osgoode. The therapy dogs that were part of MHAW last year did help student's de-stress (that, and other, less obvious, benefits are why we are bringing them back). However, it seems that many people walked away from last year's inaugural MHAW with the message that "puppies + acknowledging the existence of stress = a solid mental health approach".

It doesn't. Although Osgoode has recently made a tangible commitment to improving mental health for our students, embodied by Melanie's presence and that MHAW exists at all, I find the conversation about mental health incredibly lacking. We continue to frame mental health issues as either anxiety-or-depression-related-to-being-a-law-student or serious-scary-pathology. This is an unfounded, stigmatizing dichotomy. It nudges us towards "ranking" the severity of mental health problems based on what we name them, rather than how they impact an individual. It also reiterates that either the problem lies in our environment, or it lies in someone's brain chemistry.

Both environmental and chemical/pathological factors may play into someone's mental health. But by assigning the "blame" to these factors, we refuse to acknowledge our own agency in how they are mediated. When we apply this viewpoint to others' mental health, we are then denying those individuals the agency to choose what the best mental space for them is, and how to get there. Whether applied to ourselves or to other students, to our clients or to strangers, we need to move towards a more productive

understanding of mental health.

Currently, the reigning Osgoode perspective interferes with our shared goal of getting a legal education. We need to be able to discuss our own mental health choices in a space that acknowledges factors we cannot control while directing our attention to ones that we can. Think about this: for all of the mental health discussion as Osgoode, how often do we talk about the fact that we are entering a profession with extreme rates of alcoholism? Do we ever talk about just how much love we show the JCR Bar, and connect the two? I am not proposing that a bigger commitment to mental health would mean closing the bar and sending students who frequent it to rehab. That could be just as harmful. Rather, I am suggesting that a meaningful conversation about mental health would necessarily include, not just a discussion about alcohol, but an encouragement to think about our decision when we order another drink, or when we judge someone else for ordering another one themselves.

Last week, a friend of mine made an excellent observation about the zeitgeist at Osgoode: "mental health is something I do so I can perform optimally." Any time we approach a mental health conversation, it seems we are doing so as a means to an end. Rather than ask "how can taking care of my mental health help me be a better law student," the question should be "how is being a law student contributing to my mental health?" You decided to come to law school for a reason, and hopefully you chose law because you found some aspect of it interesting, or important, or fulfilling. In other words, hopefully you came here in part because you thought the study of law could have a positive impact on you.

Obviously, when we think of law school, the words "good for you" don't come to mind. And law school is probably never going to quite be "good for you." However, it doesn't have to be this bad for you. As dire as things seem to me, I am also hopeful. I have no problem initiating conversations about mental health, and I have been truly surprised by how open many of my fellow students have been. After informally speaking with other Osgoode students, it is apparent to me that there is an appetite to be more reflective and more critical around our mental health culture, but students seem to feel that there is no clear way of getting there.

In part, these students are correct. There is no clear way of "getting there", because there is no absolute goal. Mental health is not a tidy category; I do not think it will ever be. Mental

health is too varied to be treated as a monolithic "issue" with specific "solutions." In fact, mental health isn't actually an "issue." It is something each of us, as law students, as professionals, as partners and parents and friends, are constantly managing. If you are among the very few of us who have never had a mental health issue, it doesn't mean you haven't handled mental health. It just means you've managed to stay in charge (and good for you!). However, even having a handle on your own mental health doesn't mean that you've come to terms with the totality of mental health in the world. As students training in a profession that is supposed to work for the public good, we have an obligation to try to understand mental health as it impacts ourselves and our clients.

So, although I do not think we can articulate a final goal, I think we could set a few interim ones. First, we need to strive to situate mental health as valuable in and of itself. Ideally, performing optimally at your job would be a reflection of your mental health, not the other way around. Since the law interacts with mental health at an extremely high rate (for example, over 70% of prisoners in Canadian federal penitentiaries ended up there for reasons associated with mental health), understanding mental health is all the more pressing. To that end, a second goal is to confront our views of what mental health is and what it can be, beyond the Osgoode binary. We will need to challenge ourselves intellectually and emotionally to use and create different models through which to view mental health.

What is the first step towards either of these goals? I can't answer that for you. But if you're ready to find some answers for yourself, this year's Mental Health Awareness Week will get you started. Join us for:

Student Open Forum – Monday, October 28th in Room 1004 from 12:30 - 2.

Therapeutic Paws of Canada – Tuesday, October 29th in the Atrium from 12:30 – 2:30.

Mental Health and Justice Panel with Lucy Costa and Alex Procope - Wednesday, October 30th in the ADR Room/Helliwell Centre from 12:30 - 2:30.

OSPC De-Stress Event - Thursday, October 31st in Gowlings Hall at 12:30.

NCR: Not Criminally Responsible Film Screening & Panel Discussions hosted by Professor Jamie Cameron - November 1st, 2013 in ADR Room from 9:45 – 3:30.

Slipping on Silk Road

SAM MICHAELS
Staff Writer

This week, the FBI took down the site once thought to be the internet's Forbidden City.

The infallible Silk Road is gone, replaced with a United States Government warning, signaling the potential for sweeping changes in how the Internet and society interact. If you don't know what the Silk Road is, well, the secret is out, so a quick Google search will fill you in. Essentially, it's an online black market for drugs, fake passports, and instructional manuals for everything from bomb making to money laundering. The holy grail of the infamous "deep web," the Silk Road operated purely on Bitcoin (another no-longer-secret part of the web), and its disappearance means uncertainty and confusion for both these once sacred institutions of internet anonymity.

The deep web consists of the thousands of terabytes of information on the internet which are hidden from search engines. It is the collection of hidden pages and programs which fuel mainly illegal internet activity. Everything from terrorist training to meth manufacture is available somewhere on the internet, and most likely, you have to know the exact address to find it, and be using TOR (a network that provides you anonymity while on the internet) when you access it. If you do find yourself on such a site, under such conditions, you are in the dark web.

Once there, you will likely need bitcoins to get any meaningful work done. This currency, developed by a still unknown person or group under the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto, exists purely as an internet currency, part of an open-source protocol free from central authority. Bitcoin transactions are processed through servers called "bitcoin miners," which in turn create newly minted bitcoins, which circulate the peer-to-peer network. The entire concept can be hard to understand, and is worth far more investigation than this paragraph can provide, but it's important to get some definitions across so as to give substance to two important facts. Bitcoin ownership is anonymous, and the bitcoin market is only controlled by the

process, which creates and maintains it.



ROSS WILLIAM ULBRICHT, THE ALLEGED FOUNDER AND OPERATOR OF SILK ROAD, HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH THREE FELONIES, INCLUDING SOLICITATION OF MURDER.

must consider whether the FBI is trying to set the precedent regarding how all encrypted or hidden internet activity should be treated during criminal investigations.

This consideration is empowered when we look at what happened to the bitcoins Silk Road transactions operated on. The FBI seized over \$3.1 million. In a physical sense, this means that the information with the privacy keys for various bitcoin wallets were placed on a server and secured. But can they really lay charges using as evidence a virtual currency? And what of the owners of the bitcoins? Each code is only owned by another code, the entire system would have to be retraced backwards to find the actual owner of each bitcoin wallet. Will the FBI dismantle a global currency in the pursuit of alleged criminals?

When the FBI took down the Silk Road, important statements were made about the deep web, bitcoin, and the respective limitations of each. Firstly, the investigation was successful thanks to traditional evidence, not a new technique or technology. This is significant because it means that the barriers users thought they were building every time they accessed the deep web are not nearly as strong as they thought. When it comes to busting the creators of a drug marketplace it seems like the value of the privacy they thought they had is minimal. However, we

Bitcoins represent a possible future for our understanding of currency as a whole. The way the American courts interpret their purpose and use in the upcoming Silk Road case will likely determine in part what role internet currency will come to play in our society. Bitcoin is already traded globally, and it's growth is likely to continue, but the laws on the issue are still being developed. Likewise for the laws on the deep web. It's well established that acting on the deep web does not necessarily mean acting in anonymity, but is there no protection at all? As our social and professional activity increasingly moves online, it is important that we ask what the line between the open web and deep web is, or if there really is a line at all.

Though I can't say I will personally miss a website which featured murderers-for-hire and instructional guides for hacking bank websites, I will still be watching the death of the Silk Road closely. As the first case of its kind, the way the courts decide to punish, or not punish, the website's creators will set in motion many of the techniques and strategies that will govern internet crime prosecution for years to come. Our vision of the internet has so far been one of an open, global community, which is why

concepts such as Bitcoin have taken off with such excitement and promise. Even the notoriously deep web was thought to be just another element of the online community,



SILK ROAD'S HOME PAGE NOW LOOKS LIKE THIS.

but now that may change. The way these concepts are redefined (or left alone), and the way the Silk Road prosecution plays out, will help shape our understanding of what the internet is as a whole. It's hard to know whether a controlled system is better or worse than an open community, but either way, the battle between these views is now most definitely underway.

Nuit Blanche 2013

» continued from cover

amp contributed to this movement substantially when he presented the everyday objects as art; it was in his intent to make these objects into art that in fact made them into artworks. Without the artist's intent, there is no art. A bicycle wheel is simply a bicycle wheel. As such, Duchamp's Bicycle Wheel is a brilliant testament to the creativity of mankind.

Nearly all works in this year's Nuit Blanche has a semblance to the infamous Bicycle Wheel. In

Another piece is Ferris Wheel, by Katharine Harvey of Markham, Ontario. The sculpture has an obvious link to the bicycle wheel. The bright lights illuminate the round metal frame, continuously spinning to represent how the simple creation of art by simple means is in itself a form of celebration.

To write a comprehensive summary of all the pieces exhibited in the 2013 Toronto Nuit Blanche would be too extensive to demonstrate your correspondent's message – but one final

curiosity and bewilderment. Each leaves with astonishment as a paper crown is placed upon their brows; the folded origami pieces open up into a geometric pattern, and adorn the heads of those who entered.

The art in this piece, Paper Orbs, is in the cumulative human experience that is created by those who chose to participate – at the level of the artists in the initial inception of the idea, as participants whose personal experience is the art itself, and for those who see the exodus of



LEFT TO RIGHT: *FERRIS WHEEL*, BY KATHARINE HARVEY OF MARKHAM; MARCIN KEDZIOR AND CHRISTINE KIM'S *PAPER ORBS*.

fact, the bicycle wheel itself is used as a motif for many of the main pieces. Ai Weiwei's *Forever Bicycles* utilizes the bicycle wheel in a three-dimensional pattern of geometric repetition. Each of the 3,144 bicycles have wheels that rotate on its axle, and throughout the night, thousands walked through the installation to spin a few of these wheels. It was a powerful symbol of a rapidly changing social environment, completed by the interaction provided by the audience.

commentary summarizes all too perfectly the experience of the night.

From afar, the piece looks nothing more than a wooden-frame passageway covered by a translucent plastic sheet, an austere light illuminating it in a fluorescent haze. Close up, through the gaps in the plastic one could see walls of paper, folded accordion-like, lining both sides of the passage way on racks, floor to ceiling. A line-up of people congests the entryway, as the spectators enter one-by-one at the direction of the attendants. Each walks in with a sense of

white paper crowns and witness the dispersive behaviour of human masses akin to Brownian-motion.

Conceptualizing the art in this piece then leaves one to realize that the art in Nuit Blanche does not simply present itself in the pieces themselves, but in the phenomena of the gathering – how often does an idea move such masses of people in unison, against the irrationality of foregoing sleep in order to be an observer of the potential of the human mind?

Jurisfoodence: Leslieville Pumps

**DAN MOWAT-ROSE &
LUKE JOHNSTON**
Staff Writers

Round 2. We're back with another food pick for you, Osgoode.

Venue: Leslieville Pumps - 929 Queen Street East
Cuisine: Smokehouse BBQ/Corner Store

Food: Luke: Hickory Smoked Chicken Thigh Sandwich \$7.75 & Bacon Infused Corn Fritters \$4; Dan: Southern Style Beef Brisket Sandwich \$7.75 & Coleslaw \$3; Shared: Cornbread \$3 (but given for free)

LLBO Licensed? No - Unfortunately. But it is a functioning gas station after all, and this is Ontario, the nanny-state, overbearing controller of booze in all ways.

Gas: 124.9/L of Unleaded (open 24/7 365)

The Pick:

Luke: I have decided on Leslieville Pumps for this week's adventure! It is a unique Southern BBQ gas station at Queen and Carlaw.

Dan: I started us off last week with a place on neutral territory. Everyone knows that I'm a west end guy and you're a Danforth homer. How dare you drag me a million blocks east of Yonge into the sticks.

Luke: Relax, Dan! Leslieville is like the Junction of the East. Due to the isolated, food-focused, and quaintly dive-y conditions that this neighbourhood prides itself on, I naturally assumed that you'd be comfortable here.

Dan: Hey! The west-end prides itself on having only the hippest of hangouts, serving the most local of beer and the most current variety of taco.

Luke: You'll find this 'hood equally friendly to bicycles and ironic detachment, I assure you. As for the place itself, when I discovered the Pumps, which combines cheap gas and great BBQ, it became a regular launching point for all of my road trips.

At the Restaurant:

Luke: I really appreciate the vibe here: a park-

ing lot with no designated spaces, hang-over specials on the black board (chicken and waffles with house-made bourbon maple syrup) and friendly, sarcastic staff ready to assist.

Dan: The 'Pumps' has a classic auto-garage vibe, with bags of chips, jerky, corn nuts, and other road snacks available for purchase. The clientele even fits the bill with some old man wandering around in a name-embroidered plaid shirt, and a comb in his back pocket. Strangely, there was no evidence to suggest that his hair is combed with any regularity.

The Food:

Luke: I appreciate a place that does a few things well. With a handful of apps and a few

BBQ sandwiches, this place definitely fits the bill.

Dan: Free cornbread baby! Love that. Very classy move of this place to give out a free appetizer for the food running a bit late. I'm also a huge coleslaw fan and this stuff is amazing. Pickled onions and dijon, light sauce, major flavour, and just enough 'health' factor to balance out a BBQ focused meal.

Luke: Agreed. The free cornbread was a nice touch. It was moist in the centre and crunchy in the crust. Since I was last here they also decided to add bacon to the fritters -- a truly inspired choice. They might be the best I've ever had: not too doughy, perfectly fried and with just the right amount of spice. The fresh herb sauce was also the perfect complement.

Dan: I'm glad we decided to go 'share-sies'

on the two sandwiches, because your hickory chicken out-classed my brisket by a mile. Don't get me wrong, the brisket was good, the beef had great flavour, but the chicken was unreal. I also felt like the brisket was cut too thick and I would have liked more sauce on the sandwich. When I order brisket, I want to NEED wet naps, damn it.

Luke: I defend the brisket to some degree. The thick cut gave it a homestyle feel and I thought the beef was so flavourful that it didn't need extra sauce. For me the bun was more of a concern. I know true south BBQ demands a crusty bun, but I actually prefer a softer meat holder (should I rephrase that?). The chicken thigh sandwich was superior, though, you're right. I loved the sweet/heat balance in the sauce and tender thigh meat.

Dan: Trying... so.. hard.. not to make fun of.. you.

Amenities & Service:

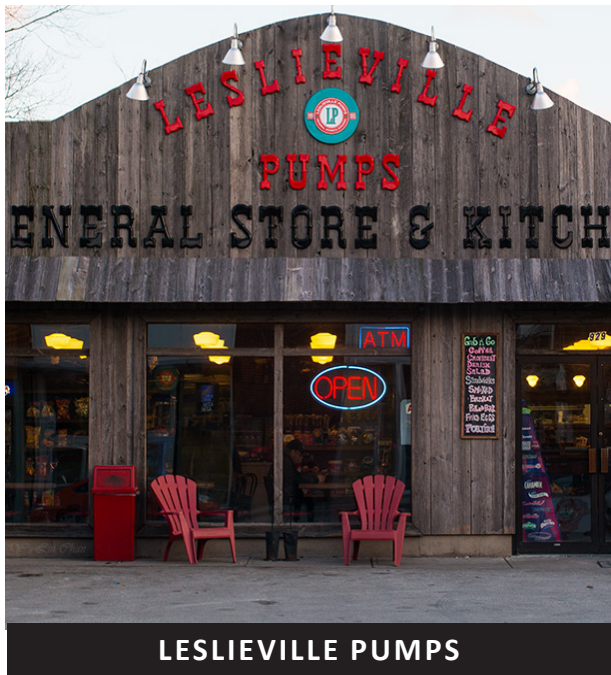
Dan: Can I just mention that you never told me we'd actually be dining inside a convenience store. This is key info. The bathroom looked like someone had poured gravy all over the radiator. What if I had decided to bring my girlfriend this week instead of last time? Your negligence could have put me in the dog-house for days. So selfish..

Luke: Fair enough! In fact, readers may be surprised that the bathroom didn't inflame my germophobia. But it is clean -- for a gas-station. There was soap and a Osgoode-style power hand-dryer. Overall, the restaurant is well-maintained and surprisingly roomy

for what is essentially an urban truck stop. Where else can you sit down for a delicious sandwich and share a two litre of Tahiti Treat?

Dan: True! Also, best moment of this lunch -

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LESLIEVILLE PUMPS



FREE CORNBREAD

Walter White's journey to self-fulfillment

DANIEL STYLER
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: there are abundant Breaking Bad spoilers below. Do not read them if you do not want to. Any complainants will be mocked at this week's staff meeting.

As the camera faded out, with Walter White lying dead on the floor, it was hard not to think back to the conversation he had with his wife, Skyler, earlier in the show.

"I did it for me. I liked it. I was good at it. And I was really... I was alive." It was in that moment that Walt finally revealed the truth to Skyler. The meth operation, the barrels of cash, Heisenberg and his pork pie hat hadn't all been for his family – they had been for him. None of this should have been surprising, though; after all, Elliott and Gretchen Schwartz – Walt's former business partners at Gray Matter – offered to give him a job and pay for his cancer treatment well before he had transformed from a small-time meth cook into the Southwest's most prolific drug producer and distributor. It wasn't family that pushed him away from that offer and into a life of crime; it was pride. Walt's confession to Skyler helped to reinforce the notion that it was pride that had kept him there, all the way until his death.

"Felina", *Breaking Bad's* final episode, tidily wrapped up the loose ends that had been strewn about throughout the series' final eight episodes: Walter died, Jesse lived, and Walter Jr. and Holly appeared to be set for a substantial payday in the near future. Vince Gilligan, the show's creator, provided his viewers with the antithesis to David Chase's "Made in America", the masterful and much-discussed finale of *The Sopranos*. There was no "Don't Stop Believin'", no cut to black, and no need to call your friends to ask if their cable had gone out (or, alternatively, to argue with them about who, if anyone, had just died).

Just like "Made in America", though, "Felina" was brilliant. The episode, though, often tested my ability to remain suspended in disbelief. I found it impossible to believe that Walt – suddenly more of a cat burglar than a man running a meth enterprise – was able to visit Skyler and Holly one more time, particularly given Marie's assertion that the police were aware of his return to Albuquerque. If nowhere else, the spread-thin police surely would have been watching Skyler's new home, wouldn't they? I was also perplexed that Uncle Jack and his gang of Nazis let Walt – the man that they had stolen \$70 million from – into their compound, even if it was to kill him. And if they brought him there to kill him, would they really have

let him drag his visit out just long enough for him to get them into the perfect position to be shot down (oh, except for the two people that Jesse and Walt wanted to personally kill) by a remote-controlled gun hidden in the trunk of Walt's car?

Then again, this is the same show that once had Gustavo Fring, a pleasant drug lord and fast food chicken entrepreneur, exit a hospital room following an explosion with his face half gone (looking very much like Harvey Dent) and calmly adjust his tie before collapsing, dead. *Breaking Bad*, then, may need to be watched with a grain of salt. When it is, though, there are few shows on TV – if any – that can match its remarkable acting and character development, and so-intense-they-make-it-hard-to-breathe plot lines.

The final showdown between Walt and Jesse was both powerful and prodigious. Walt kicked the gun he had used to kill Uncle Jack to Jesse, offering him the revenge that Jesse went to such great heights to exact over the course of the series' final episodes. Jesse, though, seemed to realize that revenge would have changed nothing. There was no freedom to be gained by killing Walt, or by having Walt tell him what he (Jesse) wants for the umpteenth time. There was freedom, though, in telling Walt that if he wanted to die, he could do it himself. And

that is what he did. And as Jesse drove away, tears streaming down his face, it was easy to smile along with him. Jesse was not innocent, not at all; but he was a tragic character, having lost everything he had to a deadly combination of drugs, Walter White, and Stockholm syndrome. Walking away from Walt will never bring back Jane or Andrea, or make Brock any less an orphan. But one can at least hope that it will give Jesse the power to wrestle his life back from the immense shadow left by his former business partner, Heisenberg.

Walter dying on the floor in a meth lab was equivalent to a sailor wanting to have their ashes thrown out to sea; he was able to die, as perplexing as it may be, in the place that made him feel the most alive.

duty to warn

Interested in a joint JD/MES degree?

All 1Ls are invited to an information session at 1:30PM on October 16 in Room 1002.

Interested in judicial clerkships?

All interested JD students are invited to an information session at 12:30PM on October 21 in Room 2010. Please RSVP through Osgoode LegalEase under the Events tab.



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we mean on YouTube.

The Happiness Project: Are you happy now?

CASS DA RE
Editor-in-Chief

Some of you might be too young (or too old) to remember the 2003 angsty-pop single by Michelle Branch, titled “Are you happy now?” Without any external provocation and without any internal rationalization, I find the sorrowful sounds of this particular singer-songwriter slowly seeping into my fanciful trip down memory lane. There’s something about fall that is uniquely sobering, it may be the changing colours of the leaves, in their last vain attempt to be remembered for something beautiful that acts as a natural reminder of my own unavoidable mortality. It may be the tantalizing tease of the early wisps of the winter chill that slowly nip at any exposed skin by mid-October, that force me to consider that soon the year itself will come to an anti-climatic end under what was once a blanket of snow, but now, thanks to global warming, a much less romantic hardened cast of frost, fog, and cold mud. Either way, fall signals a time to prepare oneself for an inevitable ending; then again, that may just be me. I may have been a squirrel in a previous life, hot-wired to collect acorns of whimsical notions before the drudgery of exams, and before the end of (social) life as we know it befalls us.

Nevertheless, with Michelle Branch as the interior soundtrack to my thoughts, I find myself in my last year of law school, and the question that continues to echo in my mind is: are you happy now? For those of you unacquainted with my journalistic past, I have been Osgoode’s self-acclaimed Happiness Guru. I have been writing this feature piece since my first year at Osgoode, addressing issues about health, happiness, and general well-being in a response to the hardship of law school. Despite the many cotton-candy-sweet columns I have penned, make no mistake about it kids, law school is hard. You are not, never were, and never will be alone in that sentiment.

First year is undoubtedly the most trying: everything is new and confusing, some people seem like they already know it all, you feel like you know nothing, there are a ton of Latin words and acronyms constantly being thrown around without any context, and everyone keeps talking about this “Denning” character - apparently he’s into cricket. When I was in first year, all the second years said, “It gets easier”, “It’s so much better in second year”, and “Just wait, next year you’ll be happier.” The honest truth of the matter was that in second year, the workload was still challenging. Though I did like the classes better because I chose them on my own accord, and I was incrementally happier, it wasn’t the puppies and rainbows that I had been led to believe would lie at the end of

the yellow brick road. But there were these wise and sage third years who said, “It gets easier”, “It’s so much better in third year”, and “Just wait, next year you’ll be happier.” Enter this year, and here I am, at the top of the proverbial totem pole, pecking order, pyramid, food chain, or whatever hierarchal structure you would like to envision: the last year of law school. Full of remorse and utter disillusion, I must report that I didn’t find the pot of easy and happy-go-lucky gold at the end of my rainbow.

Law school was not the happiest time of my life, despite the constant reassurances from anyone senior in age or academic level that it would be. For that, I can only blame myself. I spent far too long waiting for law school to change, waiting for law school to get easier, and waiting for law school to get better. Upon further reflection, I realize that law school doesn’t change, and it likely never will. In the words of e. e. cummings, “here is the deepest secret nobody knows (here is the root of the root and the bud of the bud and the sky of the sky of a tree called life; which grows higher than soul can hope or mind can hide)”. “It” doesn’t get easier and “It” doesn’t get better, and no amount of time in law school will make you happier.

What changes is you: your ability, your awareness, your experience, and your understanding. You make your life easier by committing to

more sound choices and you, through this difficult process, get better at overcoming its inherent hurdles. Maybe if we, and everyone else who espouses advice, stop focusing on the institution in which we are in, but rather turn the lens inwardly and made the locus of our attention ourselves, we will actually have a fighting chance of being happier during our time here.

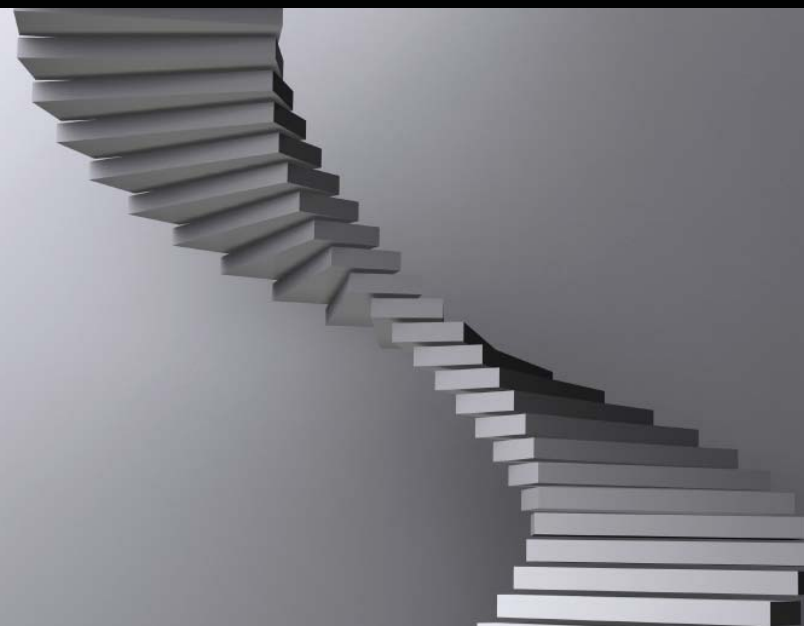
The take away is this: it is easy to project our expectations of happiness, success, and well-being on to others and on to institutions. It is easier still to project our faults, our failings, and blame on the same. Without trivializing the institutional, social, economic, and organizational barriers that different individuals face, and without taking a purely individualistic approach, I only wish to recognize that happiness in law school has very little to do with law school and very much to do with the law student. As law students, we have a responsibility, dare I say duty, to other law students to be honest about our experiences, to give useful advice, and to share both our tribulations and triumphs. This may be my last vain attempt to be remembered for something meaningful - call me amber and maple leaf red. But this is my call to action in the autumn of my academic career. Hopefully, at the end of your three years here, you can answer Michelle Branch with a resounding yes, without the angsty-pop soundtrack in the background.

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A Little Sheep Told Me: how to avoid top life regrets

ANGIE SHEEP

Arts & Culture Editor

This week's article may be a little morbid to read as I am writing about the top regrets of the dying. I stumbled upon this topic as I was aimlessly surfing the Internet (during class time, of course) and thought it came at a most suitable time. As many of us obsess over impending OCI's or other stressors in our lives, I want to introduce some objectivity and perhaps calmness to our racing minds. You've probably seen this list before, but I'm almost certain most of you have forgotten it. How could you not? Death seems to be miles away and we are really just beginning our lives and careers. But I encourage you to ponder this list not in light of death, but in consideration that these realizations can happen anytime, and anywhere. They hide in the shadows of our minds and occasionally rear their heads in times of vulnerability. However, we always choose to push these warnings aside and persist with our "goals" and "dreams". So I encourage you to think of them now and adjust the things that are propelling you towards this regretful path. Because, unlike the people who contributed to this list, you still can.

Bonnie Ware is the woman to thank for this week's inspiration. She is an Australian nurse who has worked many years in palliative care. As a result, she was exposed to many patients during the last weeks of their lives. Ware became close to many of these patients and discovered 5 common themes that resurfaced again and again as the patients came closer each day to their respective departures. She shared these findings in her book titled *The Top Five Regrets of the Dying*, which is what motivated me to write this article.

I wish I'd had the courage to live a life true to myself, not the life others expected of me

This was the most common regret amongst all the patients. When they looked back on the paths they took and didn't take, they started to realize that they failed to honour their real dreams. At this point, it's too late and their only choice left is eventual acceptance. In our daily lives and at Osgoode, we are constantly pushed towards certain decisions despite our hesitations. We do this often because it seems to be the best way to succeed, because our peers are all heading down that path, or because it's simply the easiest way. I am also guilty of this thinking and can't blame anyone but myself if I end up working 80-hour weeks because I was the one who forced myself to do

so. But I'm starting to realize that this is not my dream (if it can be considered a dream at all); I'm living someone else's.

I don't think you need to overhaul your entire planned path to live a life true to yourself, because some things are simply unavoidable (you have to work to eat don't you?). I think it's more about finding a balance. Give yourself the opportunity to realize some of your dreams along the way. And don't postpone; do it when you have the advantage of health. As Ware so aptly put it, "health brings a freedom very few realize, until they no longer have it."

I wish I didn't work so hard

This was a more prominent regret for male patients than their female counterparts and those in the law profession may be even more susceptible to this than the average person. While Ware speaks about people missing their children's youth and partner's companionship, I'd like to highlight the forgone opportunities of friendship, enjoyment and fun. I think many of us are already guilty of this now. Studying at Osgoode is stressful and competitive, especially when your entire future seems to be based on the grades you receive. So our solution is to work and then work some more. If the mere possibility of "beating the curve" is worth it to you, I am probably not able to convince you otherwise; but for those of you who want something else, look up, go out, and do what you actually enjoy. Is it possible that you don't need straight A's? Is it possible that you'd rather be happy than study yourself to oblivion? When you create more space in your life, you become open to opportunities that would never have gotten your attention when you were deep in the trenches. And who knows, one of these opportunities may lead you to a job that is even greater and more suitable to your new lifestyle. The books may get you the grades, but it's people who give and get you jobs, so don't forget about the people, including your peers.

I wish I'd had the courage to express my feelings

We often suppress our feelings in order to keep the peace. At Osgoode, we are constantly reminded that the legal profession is very small, our peers are very likely our future colleagues, word travels fast, reputations are easily ruined, and hard to rebuild. These friendly hints make it especially difficult to speak openly and honestly, resulting in unnec-

essary gossip, misunderstandings, and bitterness. I think we are taking these reminders too far; it's not telling us to say nothing, but to be courteous and professional in expressing our opinions and feelings (Jessica White anyone?). And you'd be surprised how receptive people can be when you bring a concern to their attention. We tend to exaggerate the negative consequences in our minds and thus avoid all confrontations, but speaking up may actually strengthen a friendship as well as release the your own pent-up frustration.

I wish I had stayed in touch with my friends

This theme relates to the second, but also speaks to the tendency for people to become so absorbed and caught up in their own lives that they let their friendships slip by. When I look back on my best memories, they are always the ones where I had been with great friends. But as everyone's lives get busier and more career-focused, it's become harder to reconvene and relive those moments. It also probably won't get better as time goes on. Nevertheless, I have always believed that you make time for the things you care about. For example, I could have a final exam tomorrow but still somehow catch up on the latest episodes of *Suits*. It's just about making the effort to do so. And friends are definitely more important than *Suits*.

I wish I had let myself be happier

Happiness is a choice and you should choose to do more of what makes you happy. People say money doesn't bring happiness; I disagree (I think winning the lottery could help us all out right now). But money, once you have achieved a comfortable (not extravagant) lifestyle, does not add much more to your happiness. Yes, it's important to study and get an awesome paying job, but there's a reason why so many people leave once they have reached the threshold of enough. Money brings happiness, but there are simply many other things that bring you even more happiness. And don't you want more of that? Unfortunately, we are also creatures of habit, so it becomes daunting to venture out and break the pattern. However, this "comfort" and "familiarity" that you hold so tightly to may actually be hindering your personal growth and joy. Don't be in denial; don't pretend; and do search for laughter and silliness again.

"Life is a choice. It is your life. Choose consciously, choose wisely, choose honestly. Choose happiness." - Bonnie Ware

Casting the first pineapple

GEOFF GOODSON
Staff Writer

The enthusiasm has waned and the dinner-party has returned home, back to our cozy social circles and comfortable silences. Yet, there is still fruit left on the table, which tends to ripen and rot when left uneaten. I direct my article towards this degradation while, undeniably, admitting my own complicit role in its dissipating rot. For, in a corner, just possibly, Jessica White (whomever that may be) sits alone in her bedroom, isolated and alienated, thinking about the future as if it were defined by the present. She may be crying. She may be even thinking about how accosting an entire class by hacking into the school email is inappropriate: about her tone, about the sting of regret and about how a single act can lead to such chaos in one's life. So what does the fact-pattern of her act really suggest? That Jessica is merely a bad, mean-spirited, or ignorant person? To my mind, obviously, it is too easy and yet, is almost natural to assume these conclusions - but, consider that perhaps her behaviour was merely the unfortunate result of a personal situation that has left her bitter and sad; a personal circumstance under which she broke down and broke out against people, in an admittedly foolish manner? For my part, I have made many mistakes which have made me cringe, especially when not at my best: after the loss of a loved one; when I have been depressed, drunk, stressed, livid at

a random personal event, or when I plainly chose the wrong path or words. Thus, as you might imagine, in sum, "pineapple-gate" has left a lingering and bitter taste in my mouth (pineapples, which are, in fact, crunchy when you eat their prickly skin.) So, let's peel back that skin and ask ourselves what this situation really means.

More troubling than Jessica's act, for me, is the enthusiastic mob-justice doled out (no pineapple pun intended) by us law students to target such triviality without thought to the consequences. In this vein, it would be appropriate for us all to take a stroll down to Regent Park at 3am and see if we can generate the same enthusiasm against the serious crimes being committed down there (my email is goodsongeoff@hotmail.com and I am offering to follow through on this endeavour with any student). I assure you that the individuals in this area will not be so easily cowed. Certainly, Jessica possessed an abnormal capacity for anti-social behaviour in that moment and thus, picking apart her language and posting it online as a source of ridicule may be inevitable and yes, even appropriate in terms of her liberal use of the term "eating disorders" (as has been aptly pointed out). But, should the online circus predictably overshadow a more appropriate and measured response that one would expect from professionals? I believe that our community can do and is better. One

can only imagine that Jessica must be devastated, formerly cowering in her anonymity at the sensationalism, concealment which has now been disclosed freely and in a possibly well-intentioned, but reactionary fashion. Her reputation is tarnished, friendships are probably damaged and her self-esteem may be in shambles; all because she made one very regrettable, but relatively harmless, mistake. My fear is that our own response (myself included) reflects the adversarial system at work in our attitudes, but outside of the justice system: sharks eating sharks and in this case, under the painted veil of supposed humour and justice—"jestice," one might call it; not seeing or caring about the person that may be hurting on the other side.

We all have moments of great weakness, to be jerks, as it were, and for one to worry about every apparent personality that we label as such, is to be an extremely busy and uncharitable individual; myopic even. So, Jessica, if you happen to read this article, remember that we all make mistakes and that many people understand that your sense of what is respectful is atypically demanding, that you merely felt disrespected yourself and that, whatever may be happening in your life is going to be okay in the end. Just stick through the melee and focus on your studies. All of this will pass. You are cared for as a human being.

Jurisfoodence


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which is saying something because those corn fritters were unreal - was the kindly cashier telling me to "insert it gently" (in reference to my debit card), and that "it's always kind of fun to say that to people." I almost died. This place became a certified gold pick as soon as

my ears were graced with that gem. Considering the level of service I expected walking into a gas station, this place went above and beyond.

Luke: Overall, I maintain that the Pumps is a gem. The prices are great and the food is

exceptional. It's certainly not a place to take your parents after you're called to the Bar, but it's worth a trip to the neighbourhood. I'd also recommend it for people at the start of a road trip who want great sandwiches and Toronto's cheapest gas (they claim) before they go.

Score: Leslieville Pumps	
Dan	Luke
Food: 3/5 Service: 4/5 Atmosphere: 3/5	Food: 4/5 Service: 4/5 Atmosphere: 4/5
Overall: 3.5 sossbosses out of 5, not bad for a gas station! #fillerupwithsoss	
	

Why theory matters in law school

SARA HANSON
Contributor

You've probably heard the debate by now, or maybe you have participated in it. You know the one where your friend says that she learned nothing about how to practice law in law school and summering at (insert name of firm/government office of your choice) was a much more valuable experience. You, on the other hand, might disagree. In fact, you have found law school to be overly practical, and not nearly academic enough. Really we are just learning technical skills that we will one day use to manipulate the law to suit our clients' desires.

This debate was the topic of a recent article entitled "I didn't go to law school to become an academic," published online by *Maclean's* magazine (September 25, 2013). The title of the article is drawn from the words of one of our own 3Ls and one of my fellow classmates. While I have utmost respect for my colleague, I have to say, as lawyers do, that I respectfully disagree with the article's general argument that law schools should be more practical and less theoretical.

This debate is one that links up to the larger debate about the value of post-secondary education more generally. One need only skim through the *Globe and Mail's* recent op-eds (I swear Margaret Wente has written half a dozen articles on this topic in the last year alone) to get a sense of what I am talking about. On the one side, there are those who argue that universities should be in the business of equipping students with the technical skills they need to become productive members of society. Universities should be preparing students for the working world instead of filling their heads with useless ideas that will never translate into practical skills. On the other side of the debate, there are those who argue that universities are not, and have never been, about preparing students for specific jobs. Rather, the purpose of the university is to educate students to think critically about their place and role in society. The skills that are required to succeed in the modern working world, such as the ability to innovate or adapt to new work environments, will flow naturally from the educated mind.

I believe that our own debate in law school is really not any different. I also believe that we need more, not less, theory because this theoretical foundation translates into the ability to think critically about the law, its role in the world and the impact that we are going to have in that world as future lawyers. Now don't get me wrong, I am not completely against practi-

cal, or should I say "praxicum", experience. I was very fortunate to participate in the poverty law intensive at Parkdale Community Legal Services last year. That experience was undoubtedly the most rewarding and enjoyable part of my law school career. However, I would also credit my previous liberal arts education, as well as the opportunity to learn about the theory of poverty law, for equipping me with the intellectual skills required to process my experience in a meaningful way.

Poverty law can be a very rewarding, but also very draining practice. You are constantly faced with the problems of the most-marginalized individuals in society whose issues are often linked to intersecting areas of oppression. You may be able to help a client avoid eviction this time, but what happens when your client's refugee claim is denied and her social assistance is cut off? You can help negotiate a payment plan for her rental arrears, but only so far as she has some form of income. The point I am trying to illustrate is that as a law student there is only so much you can do to help. These problems stem from much larger systemic problems that are a matter of policy and largely out of your control. As a result, it is very easy for students of poverty law to develop a sense of hopelessness because the world they thought could be fixed through the law no longer seems possible.

While I definitely experienced that sense of hopelessness at times, I also knew I had to find a way to work through these feelings so that I didn't burn out and to ensure I could still serve my clients to the best of my abilities. I credit my training in critical thinking (yes, that communications studies degree was worth something after all) for helping me step back and reflect on my experience at Parkdale as I was going through it. I also credit the academic part of the program for providing me with the relevant literature about poverty law and its underlying goals and objectives. Reading this literature allowed me to feel connected to something larger than my own day-to-day experience, provided me with a sense of direction and even allowed me to regain a little hope.

My experience as a Parkdale student is illustrative of the first reason why I think there is still some value to the theoretical/academic side of law school. It provides you with a set of analytical tools to help you make sense of the practical aspects of law. In any area, law is fundamentally about power and the relationships that exist within power structures.

Students need to understand what it means to yield this sense of power so that when we go out into the world we know how to use it responsibly. While the debate about whether lawyers are really just hired guns is the topic of another article, we should all remember that our duty to the public interest is not a pie in the sky ideal. It is an obligation, written down in the *Rules of Professional Conduct*.

A theoretical foundation is also useful for understanding that the law does not just fall from the sky, but rather it comes from somewhere. Those in power create the law, generally as a means to perpetuate their power. While the common law is created by those non-political actors we refer to as judges, it is important to remember that judges are generally, though not always, drawn from the same power structure as the politicians who selected them. Critical thinking teaches us to be skeptical and question the real reason why a law exists. Skepticism allows one to think outside the box. This type of thinking is not just a creative exercise. It is the type of thinking that is used to win landmark cases, and more importantly, to help shape the law and make it a more accurate reflection of our society.

Finally, a more theoretical legal education provides students with the skills they need to think critically about their own lives and careers. Law school is a strange and isolating experience, and it can be very easy to lose sight of who you are and the reasons why you decided to take this journey in the first place. There are a number of pressures, financial and other, that make certain opportunities seem more attractive than they really are. The clearest example is the allure of Bay Street for students who came to law school to do public interest work. Being able to think critically about why students are exposed to these opportunities from the first moment they step foot in the law school may help students stick to the path they originally planned to follow.

Practical experience is not meaningless, especially because the goal for most of us is to become practitioners of the law. But, what is the point of doing something if you don't know why you are doing it? The theoretical aspects of law school provide space for students to ask the why questions. The answers to these questions may not seem clear now, and we will likely continue asking them for the rest of our careers. However, it is through asking these questions that we will all become better lawyers because ultimately asking questions is how we arrive at the truth.

New Jurassic Park to be released, with Chris Bosh headlining as brachiosaurus

EVAN IVKOVIC
Staff Writer

For Chris Bosh, his dream of headlining a major motion picture is finally coming true. Bosh, harnessing his knack for looking like a dinosaur, is headlining the new *Jurassic Park* movie as a brachiosaurus. Bosh informed reporters:

“It was either this or a movie where I play an ostrich that learns to love his owner. There was also a promising role as a giraffe that’s reunited with his lost child. Ultimately though, I knew I couldn’t pass up the opportunity to contribute to such a treasured franchise as *Jurassic Park*.”

We asked Bosh what he values most about the opportunity, and he responded by saying:

“Honestly, the best part is just sticking it to Wade and LeBron for not truly including me in their friendship. I send them texts all the time and they never respond, always saying they just didn’t have the time to respond and then just forgot about the text. The worst is when I check their Facebook profiles and see all the parties they go to that they don’t even bother inviting me to. So I really feel that this role will give me the respect that I deserve and have missed out on for unfair reasons.”

Though Chris Bosh is headlining the film, he was not the only NBA star involved in production. Staff and crew could not stop raving about Tim Duncan, who was always a consummate professional on set, consistently executing fundamentally sound dinosaur wails. Dwight Howard also auditioned for a role in the movie, but came off as desperate and pathetic to the casting director. Nevertheless, Dwight’s “pal” Jay-Z pulled some strings and got Dwight a part, but Dwight had to be replaced due to lingering back and shoulder issues that he could not man up and deal with. In related news, while Dwight was still on set, Kobe Bryant showed up and made Dwight cry at least a dozen times, even though Kobe was not involved with the actual making of the movie. As well, LeBron James showed up on set with his chaperone and father Greg Oden to half-heartedly support Chris Bosh during production.

Some former Raptors teammates of Chris Bosh were involved with the soon to be released *Jurassic Park* movie. The NBA’s best

lazy Turkish basketball player, Hedo Turkoglu, made a brief cameo, his only line being “ball”. Another one of Chris Bosh’s lazy Raptors teammates, Andrea Bargnani, was cast in a leading role, but ultimately struggled with



CHRIS BOSHIOSAURUS

weight issues due to his love of eating Primo Pasta, forcing producers to replace him with someone less disappointing.

Some NBA stars, however, decided their talents were best used helping out behind the scenes. Andrew Bynum’s hair played a small but significant role as a dinosaur egg nest. Tragically, after production for the movie wrapped up, Bynum died in a gruesome bowling incident. Brian Scalabrine was particularly integral in helping with makeup and costume design during production. When approached for a comment, Scalabrine told us, “Working on *Jurassic Park* reminded me of my playing days, when I used to make sure the boys got their Gatorade at a slightly chilled temperature and the team always had clean towels when they were on the bench. I like taking care of my teammates, and I treated the crew on set the same way as I would my teammates

on the basketball court. You won’t believe the praise I’ve gotten for my hair product and skin care recommendations.”

Interestingly, the new *Jurassic Park*’s all-NBA cast is part of a recent trend of NBA stars working in the movie industry. In fact, Chris Bosh is just one of several NBA stars to make the move to the silver screen in a leading role. Retired former NBA All-Star Sam Cassell, taking on the role everyone has been clamoring for, has been cast to play E.T. in a remake of the Spielberg classic. Vince Carter, too, was cast in a leading role, slated to play opposite Johnny Depp in the new *Pirates of the Caribbean* movie. Unfortunately for Carter, he was found writhing in pain after gently bumping into another cast member, with the concomitant injury being deemed serious enough by Carter for him to drop out of the movie. Most recently, Kevin Durant has been generating significant Oscar buzz for his leading role in a remake of *Space Jam*, though most agree that LeBron James looks like the clear winner at this point. Whispers around Tinsel Town also have it that Allen Iverson was Tarantino’s original choice for the leading role in *Django Unchained*, but Iverson was ultimately replaced by Jamie Foxx for refusal to practice his lines. Iverson then went on to do highly inefficient acting elsewhere.

We followed up on Chris Bosh’s address to the media, personally asking him about the influx of NBA players in Hollywood, he responded:

“Honestly man, it doesn’t even surprise me, in the least. With guys flopping all the time in the league now, it was just a matter of time before guys realized that faking a hit in a game is pretty much acting.”

As for the future of NBA players in acting and movie production?

“I’m not worried about the future or whether guys in the league are going to keep working in Hollywood, I’m just trying to take things one step at a time for me, one film at a time, and appreciate the moment,” said Bosh.

Meanwhile, LeBron James and Dwayne Wade snickered behind him.

Hey 1L, what are you doing with your summer?

FATEMA JIVAJI
Contributor

I, like many first year law students, did not have any legal experience in any capacity prior to the first day of Ethical Lawyering. And although there are so many opportunities at Osgoode to get involved during the school year, I knew I had to make my summer count. Something to challenge me, yet set me apart. It was my chance to get some legal experience under my belt. I was confronted with reality when I realized how limited the jobs in Toronto are. I applied to the International Legal Partnership (ILP) with two things in mind:

- 1) I would get to exercise some of the skills I gained in 1L
- 2) I would get to live in the Global South for a whole summer. I knew that post 1L, a chance to live in either Asia, Africa or Latin America would be few and far between.

I decided to go to India. It is a strong developing economy and I would summer with a Nobel Peace Prize nominated organization. I came out of my experience with two stories: 'working in India' and 'living in India'. They both speak to the ILP experience in general.

Let me start with working in India. I worked at the Concerned for Working Children (CWC), an NGO focused on human rights, more specifically child rights advocacy. The first day we were told where the organization was headed within their five-year mandate and their areas of concentration. We were given an array of

potential research topics and were told to pick the one that most interested us. Though I didn't know anything about child rights in India, it certainly would not be the last time I would be put in a position where an assignment would be forwarded to me without my having any prior knowledge about the topic; I took it as a learning exercise. The organization was excited to have us. They helped us along the way and guided us in the right direction. Ultimately, we got to do some cool stuff. We interviewed many government agencies and quasi-government entities on the state of current legislation and its implementation. Working in India came with its challenges, namely, navigating the bureaucratic system, language barriers and understanding local policy concerns. It became important to know our own limits and recognize uncontrollable roadblocks such as corruption and a lack of resources. In the end, it gave me the opportunity to delve into something new and unknown. I may not use my knowledge about child rights in my professional career moving forward, but I will employ many of the practical skills I gained in my placement. Grappling with new legislation, looking at policy outcomes, talking to various stakeholders, drafting reports – these are all hallmarks of being a lawyer. Enjoying that experience reinforced that I was in the right place and pursuing the right profession.

Living in India was the other face of my experience. What drew me to India were the same things that surprised me – things like the growth and the rich culture. I had never been to India before and I looked forward to the cul-

tural invasion. Of course it depends where you go and how willing you are to make a life for yourself in the new and unknown, but India came with some sweet perks. If you have the travel bug, India's travel scene is thriving and flights in and around Asia are affordable. You can really make use of your weekends and visit the Taj Mahal, Goan beaches or Nepal. CWC even allowed us to go to Sri Lanka for a week! Of course I had relinquished a few of my favorite Canadian staples – Starbucks and drinking water from the tap. But in return I got so much more. India is the place of convenience and abundance. No matter what type of cuisine you want, you can get it (but nothing really beat the local homegrown Indian restaurants where a meal for two cost \$1.50). The other ILP fellow broke his Mac charger and within an hour the Apple store had delivered him a new one right to our doorstep. Even without a car, I was the most mobile I've ever been. Arguing with auto-rickshaws became a daily occurrence.

What it comes down to was that ILP not only afforded me to stretch my legal mind, but it provided me soft skills that will be equally useful in my profession. While on an ILP, you will learn how to adapt to a new environment, manage cultural barriers and learn something about yourself. Acting as counsel for clients from varied cultures and backgrounds, you'll need to be able to interact with them. You'll be surprised how your experience hacking it in Sierra Leone or El Salvador will prepare you for your future as a lawyer.

York professor released from Egyptian detention

ANQI SHEN
CUP Ontario Bureau Chief

HAMILTON (CUP) — After being held captive for seven weeks in Egypt under no formal charges, Canadians Tarek Loubani and John Greyson were released on Saturday, Oct. 5. However, when they tried to board a plane to Frankfurt, Germany on Sunday, Oct. 6, the two were told they could not fly out because they were on a "stop-list" issued by Egyptian prosecutors.

The stop-list is yet another roadblock in the Canadians' two-month struggle to get home safely.

Loubani is an emergency doctor at Western University in London, Ont. and Greyson is a filmmaker and professor at York University in Toronto. Both were on their way to a Gaza hospital in mid-August when they were detained

by Cairo officials. Egyptian officials arrested them, along with other perceived protestors at the site, for threatening national security. No charges were ever laid.

In Canada, news of their captivity prompted nearly 150,000 people to sign a petition for their release. Their plight was also a popular topic at the Toronto International Film Festival, where Canadian filmmakers held a press conference. Friends and family told the media the men were simply "in the wrong place at the wrong time."

After 31 days in detention, Loubani and Greyson resolved to go on a hunger strike. On Sept. 28, their twelfth day on hunger strike, the two released a statement confirming that they had been living in dire conditions: "no phone calls, little to no exercise, sharing a 3m x 10m cell with 36 other political prisoners, sleeping like

sardines on concrete with the cockroaches; sharing a single tap of earthy Nile water."

Despite the public outcry against their detainment, the Canadians' were told by Egyptian officials on Sept. 29 that their detainment would be extended by 45 days.

On Sept. 29, Prime Minister Harper issued a statement calling for their immediate release. The two men were officially released on Oct. 5. Three days prior to their release, Loubani and Greyson had begun eating again and saw a doctor.

Canadian Minister of State Lynne Yelich released a statement on Oct. 5 saying, "We are facilitating Dr. Loubani and Mr. Greyson's departure from Egypt, and Canadian officials will continue to offer consular services to them and their families as needed."

ILP: Defence for Children International, Sierra Leone

CASSIE STEFANNUCI, SUBBAN JAMA, and ANEESHA LEWIS
Contributors

Project: We worked for an NGO called Defence for Children International (DCI) in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Our area of focus was juvenile justice and we were tasked with producing reports relating to children in conflict with the law, child labour and female empowerment. While on our fellowship, we visited the various communities DCI worked with and participated in training sessions of children as well as local chiefs who would work as advocates and liaisons between the community and DCI. We also visited courts to track whether accused juvenile offenders had legal representation, and canvassed police stations to ensure that children were not being unnecessarily detained.

Highlight: The Day of the African Child celebrations in which all three of us got to visit three different communities in Freetown with dozens of young women that DCI had selected as part of the Girl Power Programme. While it was an arduous and challenging experience, it was incredible to see so many young girls excited to act as representatives of their communities, going door-to-door cheering and chanting messages of girl empowerment and promoting education and access to clean water over child labour and early marriage. In true Sierra Leonean fashion, to wrap the day up, the girls taught us the moves to the latest Azonto



tunes and we bonded over delicious Sierra Leonean dishes, all while practicing our broken Krio (language).

Challenge: A challenge was realizing that even though English is the official language of Sierra Leone, not many people actually speak or understand the language. On the plus side, we got to work on our Krio skills.

Craziest moment(s): A memorable moment was getting caught in a torrential downpour while attempting to get home from work. We

had to wade through a miniature river to get to our front door. Luckily, the only casualty was Cassie's flip-flop.

On a touristy note, Cassie and Aneesha spent a weekend in a tent on the largest inland island rainforest where they saw numerous monkeys and attempted to see pygmy hippopotamuses. They went on a hike through the jungle and a long canoe ride around the island over top of crocodiles and water snakes!

This issue's Sudoku

	7		6			4		
		1		9	2		3	
5			8					2
				1			7	5
9	1			4				
8					4			3
	3		9	7		8		
		2			3		9	

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Last issue's solution

7	3	4	8	5	6	1	9	2
2	9	6	1	3	7	8	4	5
5	1	8	9	2	4	6	7	3
8	2	3	5	9	1	4	6	7
1	5	7	4	6	2	9	3	8
6	4	9	7	8	3	5	2	1
9	7	5	2	4	8	3	1	6
3	8	1	6	7	9	2	5	4
4	6	2	3	1	5	7	8	9

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Puzzles courtesy of Canadian University Press: cupwire.ca.



Osgoode Fine Arts Collective
Call for Submissions for Student Response to Osgoode Art Plan

What have the arts done for you?
How have the arts been important in your life?
Have they contributed to your successes?
Do they help you cope with stress?

Osgoode has a draft art plan and they want your response and input.
If you are interested, please contact OFAC at OsgoodeFineArts@gmail.com

The Davies summer experience?

Ask your Osgoode classmates.



Jonathan Bilyk
Class of 2015



David Kim
Class of 2014



Marc Pontone
Class of 2015



Shubham Sindhwani
Class of 2015



Emily Uza
Class of 2014



Alysha Virani
Class of 2014



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